The Times-Dispatch
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1909.

"PROVING" IT AGAIN.

One proof of one thing is enough. The same thing does not have to be proved over again, say, once a week, indefinitely. The fundamental weakness of those who have labored so desperately to "prove" Dr. Cook a charlatan is shown by their necessity of doing it all over again, on a new tack, at frequent intervals. Each new "proof"—always flaunted with an air of "Here you are at last!"—is a confession that last week's proof was not adjudged convincing. In the earliest stages of the controversy, the New York Times, a financial backer of Peary's, and Cook's most tireless newspaper foe, pointed to certain "evidence"—something about Whitney—and declared that it finally disposed of Cook. That was the first time the Times finally disposed of Cook. It has had to do it many times since, and so have all the others who have hoped and prayed than an American of hitherto good repute and some honorable distinction should turn out to be the prize impostor of history.

The "proofs" have scrambled by in a flushed and disorderly procession, another bobbing up as soon as one was exploded and the litter kicked contemptuously aside. Let us omit all the minor ones, multifold though they be. Let us refer only to the statements of Itookishoo and Ahpelah about the pole, and the affidavit of Barrill about Mt. McKinley. If either of these "proofs" had been good for anything, it would never have been necessary to say another word. Either one of them would have damned Cook utterly. But they were not good for anything. In each case the whole question came down to the credibility of the witness, and in each case the witness was not found credible. Now a brand-new "proof" is thrown at our heads, decidedly the most vivid and sensational of the lot. But it is only necessary to glance at it to see that it is much like the others. It comes from witnesses whose oaths, by their own showing, would not be accepted in any court in America.

Apart from the admitted cumulative effect on public sentiment, the narrative of Dunkle and Loose, amazingly detailed and explicit as it is, adds little or nothing to the case against Cook. By their own mouths, they are men who, for a little money, engineered themselves into a shabby conspiracy to help perpetrate a gigantic fraud upon the world. To this dishonor they added the crowning dishonor which even thieves are supposed to be above. They split on a pal. And then they brazenly emerge to sell the story of their double treachery to the newspapers. Shall we believe their story? It seems only Mr. Barrill's over again, rehashed and done more artistically. But it is not a convincing story in the least. It asks us to believe that Cook is not only the colossal faker, but the colossal fool of the centuries. Since his return from the far north, the doctor is said to have taken in at least $100,000, possibly a great deal more. He must have plenty of ready money at this moment. Yet this whole astounding narrative depends on our believing that rather than pay a debt of $4,000, Cook put himself, his honor and his future absolutely at the mercy of men whom a few weeks ago he had never so much as laid eyes upon, and whom he knew to be wholly unscrupulous and utterly for sale. Did any man in his senses ever drive so mad a bargain?

If we must swallow this story, we must swallow anything. Cook, because of his peculiar position, would naturally have irresistible attractions for sharpers and green goods men. Only let Copenhagen give us a little more time. We await with pleasurable anticipations the "remarkable" narrative from some Mr. Smith, of Tenafly, N. J., telling how Cook confessed to him in the Palace Hotel of that place that he spent all the months of his absence hiding in a hut at Anoratok, or the thrilling affidavit of Mr. Jones, the well-known drummer from Saskatchewan, that he happened to be strolling by the pole on April 21, 1908, and positively failed to meet Cook on the road.

Suppose that these two men, seeing a shining mark in Cook, hatched a plan to sell him fireside observations, went to him with this scheme and were contemptuously rejected. Suppose that, piqued, and needing the money anyway, they decided to make a story of what they had wished to happen, swear that it did happen and sell it to the newspapers for a thumping price. We have here the basis of a narrative certainly as plausible as their own. The country knows nothing whatever of Dunkle and Loose. There is only one thing in the world that it wants to know about them, that is whether or not they are men whose affidavits are good for anything. We have searched in vain through some fifteen columns of the New York Times for any testimony on this point, the one point that mattered at all. Of Dunkle's character nothing whatever seems to be said, of Loose, Mr. Lewis Nixon gravely assures us at considerable length that he is a first-class navigator—only that and nothing more. Navigator! when the sole thing that the country wants to know about him is whether or not he is a man whose word can be at all depended upon. Never did a witness to character make a vaster omission.

The story of these two men may, of course, be true, just as Barrill's may have been true, or it may be simply a malicious fabrication for hire. We can appraise it only as it is presented to us, and on that basis we reject it utterly. Cook may have been at the pole, or he may not. We do not know, nor does anybody else know but Cook. The burden of proof is on him, exactly as it has been from the beginning. It is a striking thing that this new bomb should have been thrown at him on the very day when the decisive test for which most open-minded persons have been waiting, the submission of his records to scientific authority, was at last at hand. Possibly this was due to fear that he would juggle the records if his adversaries showed their hand too soon. Possibly this was a little trap. If the ingenious Loose's "observations" should be found incorporated in Cook's records by the Copenhagen committee, this narrative would be proven true. But what are Loose's "observations"? Has he deposited a true copy, certified by a notary, with anybody on this side? If not, what is to prevent his claiming as his own any observations that Cook may use, and setting his word against the doctor's? The verdict from Copenhagen, where a most rigid examination is promised, will be awaited with a profound and enhanced eagerness. We trust sincerely that it may vindicate Cook, who, beyond any doubt, has lost ground in the last month or so. This has been due partly to the effect of the repeated "exposures" and party to his demeanor, which has been very unfortunate in several respects. For our part we shall cheerfully accept the Copenhagen verdict as the voice of authority, the first such voice ever heard in the case. Meantime we find ourselves little affected by the series of astounding "proofs."

THE ALMSHOUSE DISGRACE.

Our State Board of Charities and Corrections was not organized a day too soon. Our system of almshouses and jails was established before enlightened charity had taught that the unfortunate must be protected and the criminal must be reformed. Our Virginia counties were left to do as much or as little as they pleased for their poor, without supervision, without State assistance, without suggestion. The poor were the poor, to be treated as the poor. They should be grateful for whatever they received.

The fruits of this system are seen in the first report of the board, which contains a detailed study of the almshouses and jails of the State. Leaving the latter out of consideration, since they present a distinct problem, we feel compelled to say that the reported conditions in some of the county almshouses are almost unthinkably bad. Indeed, we go even further. The facts brought out in Mr. Mastin's report are a standing disgrace to Virginia. They reveal a negligence that is little short of criminal, and, in many cases, a practical brutality that is beyond the pale of civilized society.

Here is one extract from this most depressing report:

Inmates: two white men, one is paralyzed and unable to work, the other is very old; seven colored men, all aged or crippled; one white woman committed to the institution by the court; three colored women, two helpless from rheumatism, one eaten up with scrofula; two white children, ages three and six years respectively, 'children of one of the white inmates'; two colored boys, nine and ten years respectively, waiting to be placed in homes, since their mother is dead and their father is a drunkard.

What a miserable company to be crowded in two small houses! But there are cases even worse. There are almshouses with practically no race separation, no employment, no recreation, no hope. Diseased men, helpless paralytics, insane women and little children are huddled together. Foul-mouthed idiots and helpless, orphaned children live almost in the same room; wretched young women live, almost without supervision, near shiftless, depraved men; an aged negress alone attends the sick; weak, half-dead men and women nurse themselves in their misery. In short, every horror, every sorrow, almost every shame that can be conceived, apart from actual crime, is met with in these shingle-roofed tombs.

In presenting these facts, by actual reports from the superintendents of the almshouses, the State Board of Charities and Corrections has done a public service. Their report should be read by every man who has the welfare of the State at heart. Their suggestions and their report should arouse the Legislature to wipe out forever a system that punishes poverty more than crime and gives to old age a disgrace worse than death.

PATRICK HENRY'S ASHES.

The movement to bring the body of Patrick Henry to Richmond should be supported by every one who glories in Virginia's past. The great orator of the Revolution belonged, in a sense, to Richmond. It was here that he made his most memorable speech; here that he led the Legislature after his retirement as Governor, and here that he fought the battle of State's rights when the Constitution of the United States was under consideration by the Virginia Convention. Nothing could be more appropriate than that his body should rest under the shadow of St. John's, from whence he issued, in years gone by, the leader of the American patriots.

Virginia has more than once brought the ashes of honored sons to Virginia and buried them. During the administration of Governor Wise, old readers will remember, the Seventh New York Regiment, accompanied the body of James Monroe to this city and buried him in Hollywood. And even more recently the bones of the Confederate President, who was born elsewhere, were placed in the same cemetery.

The removal of Henry's body, therefore, would be but part of a movement to make this city a great mausoleum of honor for the Commonwealth. Other great sons of Virginia lie buried beyond her borders. Henry Lee—"Light-Horse Harry" of Revolutionary fame—still lies outside Savannah. Heroes of three wars rest on alien soil. As occasion presents itself, they should be lovingly brought back to the State they loved.

Christmas belongs mostly to little boys and girls and to older boys and girls who, thank heaven, absolutely decline to grow up.

Nor is Gustave's habit of disguising himself as a laborer, in order to learn how the plain people feel, at all likely to be imitated by the American kings of pork and steel.

We sincerely trust that at the first sign of tyrannical misdemeanor on his part, Speaker Cannon, on applying his ear to the ground, will hear the loud knocking of the Danville chorus.

Editorial comments on the President's message reveal the fact that it was both superbly strong and pitifully weak.

"Everything that the President handles," says the New York Globe, "is made as plain as the alphabet." Even plainer, say we. At least as plain as an old shoe.

Aunt Carrie Nation not only did it with her little hatchet, but could not tell a lie to the police patrol.

Kermit Roosevelt arrived safe at Nairobi, so we can all go to bed at last and enjoy a good night's sleep.

Why not put up Unk Zelaya against the winner of the Johnson-Jeffries go?

So far, Uncle Joe does not seem to be suffering with gravel in the gavel.

If Mr. Sulzer is not excessively careful, he will overhear people referring to him as Hobson, Jr.

While it is now known that Mr. Taft's message is to appear serially, very few Richmond people are sitting up nights waiting for the next instalment.

The latest minister to China, Mr. Calhoun, will, if he is wise, make a specialty of giving it to 'em stone cold.

Struggle against it as we will, we feel quite miffed. We have just gathered from the Washington Herald that The Times-Dispatch is one of the few papers in the South that the Oklahoma Times doesn't steal paragraphs from.

Victor Murdock has not only a truly insurgent air, but also lots of truly insurgent hair.

KILLING FLIES AND SAVING LIVES.

Expert Says Extermination of Pest Would Add Two Years to Life.

Dr. Daniel D. Jackson told the New Jersey Sanitary Association last week that if the housefly could be exterminated human life could be lengthened by two years. Tuberculosis experts say that most of the 10,147 people who yearly die of consumption in New York could be saved.

Such statements are not so extravagant as they would have seemed even ten years ago. Within that time the country has proved a few such assertions to be upon a small scale literally true. It has stamped out yellow fever in Havana. It has shown in San Francisco that a war on rats has a marked effect on the plague.

The Panama Canal Zone ten years ago was one of the most deadly places in the world. One reason why the French did so badly with the canal was that the workmen died so fast. This government reformed sanitation. Open drainage ditches were replaced by sewers, pure water was piped to towns, mosquitoes and flies were exterminated, all houses were screened against insects. Even the food supply was guarded. Under this regime, in spite of the hot, moist climate, the Canal Zone is now an unusually healthy place.

In theory it would be as possible for New York or London to cut down preventable disease as for Panama. And it would pay immensely. Think of a great city which with all its other attractions could be shown to be a healthier home than most mountain farms! But the problem is too vast. It is too complex. Health betterment must continue to be gradual, lagging always far behind the impatient specialist's knowledge of what is possible.—New York World.

PORTRAITS BY WIRELESS.

English Scientist Proposes to Make Long-Distance Test of Invention.

In the modern accumulation of marvels there is little room left for special wonder. Here is an English expert in electricity calmly arising and telling the unmoved members of the Royal Society of Arts that he has obtained results with experimental apparatus which show that it is possible to send photographs across the Atlantic Ocean by means of wireless. And in the same passive voice he adds that he is making arrangements for a long distance test.

Of course, it may not be often that necessity will demand the wireless photo, but occasions for its use are certain to present themselves. Possibly the portrait of a fleeing bank officer may be desired in addition to the cabled description. The wireless physiognomy of some noted international anarchistic suspect will serve to complete the chain of evidence against him. When the unco rich lady has her photograph made in London in all her society bedizenings, she may desire to impress her American friends with a wireless copy of the artistic result. And there will be no limit to the benefit to be derived from this new application of electricity by the writers of sensational fiction.

The apparatus, like all other devices dependent upon the variable and eccentric electric current, may occasionally lapse in its mission—an ear will be omitted here, a nose be missing there, a chin drift away on vagrant air vibrations, and when two currents collide a face will be badly smashed, but these possible accidents will only serve to emphasize the general perfection of the marvelous process.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Samuel Untermyer, Criminal Lawyer.

"It is easy enough to say now that any lawyer could have secured the acquittal of Augusta Crisanti, but it is exceedingly doubtful if careless and perfunctory conduct of the case and a flow of rhetoric and badinage would have been effective in face of the forcible and determined prosecution. If it is true that Irving Untermyer "worked up" the case, he bids fair to become as able a lawyer as his father.

While Mr. Untermyer has thus made a marked success in criminal practice, and set a good and clear example of what to do and how to do it for the ordinary practitioners in the criminal courts, it is not to be expected that he will continue in that branch of his profession. He has other work cut out for him, and the criminal lawyers as a class would object to the invasion of their field by a counselor who can afford to refuse his fee. But the occasional appearance of a few lawyers of this stamp will tend to improve practice in the criminal courts.—New York Times.

STATE PRESS

Taft and the Retrocession.

The retrocessionists, who are trying to again have Alexandria county and city annexed to the District of Columbia, will be disappointed when they read President Taft's message, for it is reported he has made no reference to the matter in his communication to Congress, as they had hoped he would do. A number of Washingtonians, to fame and fortune unknown outside the blocks on which they live, have recently given "opinions" as to how Alexandria could be "acquired," and it has been stated that Mr. Taft would in the message he will send to Congress to-morrow urge that some action be taken to take Alexandria back into the District, but the whole matter will probably go up in smoke, as it has so frequently before.—Alexandria Gazette.

The Red Cross Stamps.

When you fold your Christmas present this year you can give another present at the same time, with little or no trouble, and at an expense that is practically nominal. To be explicit, the Red Cross Society, whose charitable work is known throughout the world, has adopted a novel scheme to secure funds for the organization of hospitals with which to fight tuberculosis. This consists of the sale of "stickers" to close the loose flaps of the packages of presents. These are a great convenience, and they will be retailed at the lowest possible cost at various stations designated in Portsmouth. Every cent of the money will be utilized in the efforts being made to stamp out the disease best known as consumption; the work of the Red Cross Society is too well known to render any praise necessary, and the pennies spent for bits of mucilaged paper may mean the saving of useful lives.—Portsmouth Star.

Pittsylvania for Good Roads.

Pittsylvania county is taking the lead in road improvement. The time was when the roads in that county, or in some parts of it, were axle deep in mud. However, that time has passed. The county now has many miles of good roads, and seems determined to keep them good and add more miles to the number every year. The supervisors have recently made liberal appropriations for taking care of the roads during the winter in each of the seven districts of the grand old county. The News rejoices to see this evidence of enterprise and progress in this section of the Commonwealth.—Lynchburg News.

Legalizing the Primary.

The amazing thing is that the people of the Old Dominion have put up with the unlegalized primary as long as they have. There has rarely been a bolder piece of effrontery on the part of a political faction than this resistance of the public demand and of the mandate of the Constitution and the party convention.—Norfolk Landmark.

Borrowed Jingles

THE PESSIMIST.

Nothing to do but work,
Nothing to eat but food,
Nothing to wear but clothes
To keep one from going nude.

Nothing to breathe but air,
Quick as a flash 'tis gone;
Nowhere to fall but off,
Nowhere to stand but on.

Nothing to comb but hair,
Nowhere to sleep but in bed;
Nothing to weep but tears,
Nothing to bury but dead.

Nothing to sing but songs,
Ah, well, alas! alack!
Nowhere to go but out,
Nowhere to come but back.

Nothing to see but sights,
Nothing to quench but thirst,
Nothing to have but what we've got.
Thus thro' life we are cursed.

Nothing to strike but a gait,
Everything moves that goes.
Nothing at all but common sense
Can ever withstand these woes.
—Columbus News.

MERELY JOKING.

Some Comfort.

"Our romance is different."

"I suppose he tells you that you are the only girl he has ever loved?"

"No; but he does tell me that I am the only girl he has ever loved this near Christmas."—Pittsburg Post.

She Explains.

"What is this contraption you're making?"

"It might be used for a number of things."

"But what is it intended for?"

"For a Christmas present."—Houston Chronicle.

Not Like the Stage.

"She spurns my suit."

"Oh, you're bound to get the girl in the end."

"I'm afraid not. Life ain't no melodrama."—Washington Herald.

Of Course.

"But our ideals!"

"What of them?"

"Are they higher than they were a generation ago?"

"Sure. Everything is higher now."—Kansas City Journal.

Thoroughly Typical.

"Some of our prominent men," suggested the photographer, "like to have their photos taken in a characteristic attitude."

"Suits me," responded the subject. "Photograph me with my nose against a grindstone. Got one handy?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Much Nearer Correct.

Teacher: "Jimmie, correct this sentence: 'Our teacher am in sight.'"

Jimmie: "Our teacher am a sight."—Tit-Bits.

THE CEASELESS CRITICS.

"SMALL appropriations" is the slogan announced by Speaker Cannon, who proposes to discharge the function of chest protector to Uncle Sam during the approaching session of Congress.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

* * *

The proposal to ask Mr. Cannon to resign is impracticable, if not absurd. The mice once unanimously agreed that the cat ought to be belled, but none would agree to put the bell on her.—Indianapolis News.

* * *

"We must struggle to be happy," said Mr. Rockefeller. The next day Judge Sanborn and his associates handed down their decision. There's such a thing as taking a man too literally.—Louisville Times.

* * *

We notice that the football teams go right on electing captains for next year, apparently not having noticed by the papers that the game is doomed.—Ohio State Journal.

* * *

It is understood that after Attorney-General Wickersham takes a stroll with the President he is so exhausted that he can hardly bust a trust.—Indianapolis News.

After painstaking deliberation, we are ready to announce that the confusion of England's poet-laureate with the eccentric bard now visiting these shores is grossly unfair to both of them.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

The wide awake local merchant is being assisted by our strong corps of advertising writers and illustrators.
Richmond Advertising Agency, Inc.
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Established 1904.

GOOD LUCK
BAKING POWDER

Here you have the the Baking Powder—
Good Luck,
That is the synonym for successful baking. Three million people declare it.
6 ounces, 5c.
1 pound, 10c
The Southern Manufacturing Company,
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GAY ADVENTURES OF AN IRISH PEER

Lord Mountmorres Played His Part in Spanish-American War.

UPSET QUEEN VICTORIA

When Presented to Her Majesty the Lad Stumbled and Carried Her Down With Him.

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

LORD MOUNTMORRES, the Irish peer whose financial difficulties are engaging the attention of the Bankruptcy Court in London, will be remembered in this country in connection with his wild attempt to avert the war between the United States and Spain. True, it met with failure, but there is, nevertheless, some reason to accord belief to his contention that, he, at any rate, managed to delay the outbreak of the conflict for the space of forty-eight hours by acting as self-appointed negotiator for the sale of Cuba by Spain to the United States. The American emissary in London got the impression that the viscount, in sounding them as to whether the United States would be willing to buy Cuba, was acting in behalf of the Spanish embassy, while the latter, when asked by the viscount whether Spain would be willing to sell, became imbued with the impression that he was sounding them on behalf of Ambassador Hay. The matter, at any rate, was referred by wire from London by the two embassies in question to Washington and Madrid, respectively, and the actual declaration of war was delayed for a couple of days, until it was definitely ascertained that Spain would not sell under any circumstances, and that Lord Mountmorres, in approaching Ambassador Hay on the subject in London, had been acting purely on his own behalf, and without the slightest vestige of authority on the part of the Spanish government or legation.

The career of this peer has been of a somewhat unusual character. His father was murdered in the west of Ireland during the agrarian troubles of 1880. Queen Victoria did what she could for the widow and orphans, who were left in very impoverished circumstances. She granted to the viscountess a suite of apartments in Hampton Court Palace and a pension of $2,000 a year, and likewise offered to make the present Lord Mountmorres, then a thirteen-year-old boy, one of her pages of honor—a court office carrying with it a yearly pay of $1,500 and, as a general rule, nomination to a commission in the army at the close of four years' service. The young viscount, on receiving his appointment, was taken to pay his respects to Her Majesty, after being duly instructed as to how he should approach her and kneel and kiss her hand. So embarrassed, however, was he when the critical moment arrived that in kneeling down he tripped, and, losing his head entirely, and in the hope of preserving his balance, clutched hold of the hand which the Queen had extended to be kissed. Totally unprepared for such a contretemps, the august lady lost her balance as well, and, according to the story, sustained a fall which was responsible, to a great extent, for the injury to the knee from which she suffered so much during the closing years of her life.

It is said that the Queen not only kept admirable command of her temper on this occasion, but even sought with kindly words to soothe the fears of the horror-stricken lad, who, judging from his looks, expected nothing less than instant consignment to the Tower of London, followed by decapitation, or possibly even hanging and quartering. While she showed no resentment, she, however, considered it prudent to cancel his appointment as page, being of the opinion that he was scarcely fitted for the exigencies of court life. But, with the generosity that characterized her, she made him an allowance of the same amount that he would have received as page of honor during the four years that would have constituted his term of office, and which served to pay for his education at Radley and at Oxford.

Jack of All Trades.

Since growing up Lord Mountmorres has tried to do many things. He has been a director, and even chairman, of a number of companies that have gone to smash. He has been the agent in England of a great Paris dressmaking establishment, and associated with the Earl of Rosslyn in the latter's attempt to break the bank at Monte Carlo by means of a system for the putting into execution of which the two young peers and their foolish and confiding friends had got together a sum of about $50,000. The one career in which Lord Mountmorres has, however, distinguished himself has been in newspaper work, and he has been associated in turn with Lady Colin Campbell's society journal, the Realm; with Lord Rosslyn's Scottish Life, and with a number of other papers. For a time he was in the employ of Lord Northcliffe, turning out excellent copy for the London Mail, among his special articles being those describing his experiences disguised as a tramp, a crossing sweeper, a stoker on a river steamer, and as a member of many other odd callings, one of his experiences of this kind landing him in jail, for a technical offense, for a term of a few days, which, of course, gave him the opportunity of describing very vividly the internal economy of a jail as seen by a peer.

Mountmorres has also explored Africa from end to end, visiting portions of the Dark Continent where no white man had ever been seen before. He was sent out by the London Globe to investigate conditions in the Congo Valley, and wrote a most interesting series of letters, in which he showed that the districts directly under the control of the government were extremely well administered and free from abuse and tyranny, whereas the most atrocious conditions and the most frightful barbarity prevailed in the great territories leased to the various rubber companies which have their headquarters at Antwerp. Lord Mountmorres has also been kidnapped by Moorish pirates, and has had all sorts of adventures, while he is well known in this country, having frequently visited the United States. He is married to a very charming actress, a Miss Bessie Rowe, and has a little girl. His peerage is an Irish one, and gives him no seat in the House of Lords, so that his present bankruptcy does not involve his being subjected to the indignity of exclusion from Parliament.

Scotch Dutchmen.

Lord Reay and the entire Scotch clan of Mackay have been placed in mourning by the death at The Hague, at the age of seventy-one, of Baron Aeneas Mackay, who during his long and useful career held on several occasions the office of Premier, of Minister of Foreign Affairs, of president of the Council of State and of president of the national legislature in the Netherlands. The baron was the next heir to the Scotch honors of his cousin, Lord Reay, and to the chieftainship of the Clan Mackay. It is the old Premier's eldest son, Baron Eric, who now becomes next heir to this old Scotch barony, which dates from 1628. Among his ancestors were Otto Mackay, who fell in the battle of Flodden Field, and a Gilchreist Mackay, who flourished in the reign of Robert III.; the Mackays, whose original name was Siol Mhorgain, or Clan Morgan, being a purely Celtic clan, which retired into the mountain fastnesses before the Norse invaders, over 1,000 years ago. The first Lord Reay was one of the most devoted adherents of Charles I., who, not content with creating him a baronet and a baron, further advanced him to the dignity of Earl of Strathnaver; but the latter dignity was never perfected. Parliament refusing to ratify the creation, and Lord Reay, finding himself excluded from the amnesty in the treaty between the Covenanters and King Charles, withdrew to the continent.

From that time forth the Scotch Mackays were heard of in all parts of Europe as soldiers of fortune, in the service of the King of Denmark, Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden, of the Prince of Orange in the lowlands, where the family may be said, indeed, to have made its headquarters, never neglecting, however, to maintain the connection with Scotland, each generation furnishing officers to the army and navy of the British crown. One of them, George Mackay, was owner of Skibo Castle up to the time of his death, when the place, now the home of Andrew Carnegie, passed out of the possession of his family.

The present Lord Reay was born as a Dutchman, and, under the name of Baron Mackay, spent nearly twenty years in the service of Holland as a member of its diplomatic service and of its national legislature, also as chamberlain of the late Queen of the Netherlands, until, after succeeding to the Scotch peerage of his family, he was persuaded by his clever English wife to secure from Parliament letters of naturalization as a British subject, and to thus place himself in a position to enjoy the prerogatives of his Scotch honors. He is now lord lieutenant of the county of Roxburgh, has been Governor of Bombay, chairman of the London School Board, and is president of the Royal Asiatic Society and of the British Royal Academy.

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FISHER'S.

Here's to Good Clothes

There's a tendency towards good Clothes these days. Men dress much better than they did a few years ago. We ask men who appreciate high grade wearables to call to see our handsome showing of winter garments. Not high-priced because high grade—not at all. May we have the pleasure of showing you the season's best in Suits or Overcoats, or both?

$10 to $40

Fisher's
CORRECT DRESS FOR MEN & BOYS
313 E. Broad St.

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

Let Others Try It.

Please express the following in a sentence of three words, taking all that is of practical importance: "One of those omnipresent characters who, as if in pursuance of some previous arrangement, are certain to be encountered in the vicinity when an accident occurs, ventured the suggestion."

SCHOOL GIRL.

We cannot take time to answer puzzles. The sentence might be expressed in half-a-dozen ways.

Virginia Debt Case.

Please be so kind as to inform me if the bondholders won the Virginia debt case against West Virginia. Will they get interest on the bonds?

READER.

This litigation is still pending, and will not be determined before next spring.

Remarkable Chicken.

I have a chicken that stands straight up like a person. I would like to know if it is worth any more than any other chicken. INQUIRER.

If the chicken stands in a very peculiar fashion it is possible that some side show proprietor might offer you a price for it, otherwise the chicken has a market value proportionate to its weight.

Marriage License.

Is it necessary that both parties should be twenty-one years of age to secure a marriage license in Washington? READER.

No, the girl must be sixteen and the man twenty-one.

"No Matter What Her Faults May Be."

Please publish the song or poem containing the words, "No matter what her faults may be, remember she's a girl." A SUBSCRIBER.

We regret to say that these classic lines are not found in any of our collections.

Bible References.

Will you please refer me to a few chapters in the Bible which have reference to foreign missions?

FOREIGN MISSION.

Consult Matthew, xiii., 38; xxiv., 14; Mark, xvi., 15; Acts, viii., 25; Romans, i., 15; Acts, x. You will find other passages in any reference Bible.

Law of Contracts.

Please give the law bearing on the following case: Mr. A hires a laborer on the following 1910, and goes to a great deal of expense to prepare for him; the laborer later hires to Mr. B without Mr. A's knowledge or consent, and persists in filling his contract with Mr. B. What recourse has Mr. A against both Mr. B and the laborer? SUBSCRIBER.

You can, of course, sue the laborer in question for a breach of contract, though you will probably not secure anything if he is a poor man. It is extremely doubtful whether you have any grounds for legal action against Mr. B.

Emperor of Germany's Age.

How old is the Emperor of Germany?

M. M. T.

The Kaiser will be fifty-one years old on January 27 next.

Irish and Germans in America.

Please tell me whether there are more Irish or Germans in America.

CITIZEN.

There were 7,832,681 Germans, and 4,981,047 Irish at last reports.

Largest Internal Revenue.

Please inform me what State of the Union pays the largest internal revenue tax on tobacco and liquor. What State is next? VIRGINIAN.

Illinois leads, with $46,122,844.97; New York is second, with $30,359,597.81.

Tom Watson's Party.

Please tell me where that convention met last year that nominated Tom Watson for President. What was the convention called? M. L. B.

Watson was nominated by the People's Party National Convention, held at St. Louis, April 2-3, 1908.

Tax on Smoking Opium.

Please tell me what is the Federal tax on smoking opium. READER.

$10 per pound.

Vessels in Coastwise Trade.

How many vessels are there engaged in coastwise trade? Are all of these vessels built in America? CITIZEN.

There are 22,451 such vessels. All of these must be built in America, repaired in America and equipped with American materials to engage in this trade.

Express Companies in U. S.

How many express companies are there at present in the United States? What are the annual receipts of these companies? B. L. M.

At last reports there were thirty-four companies, whose total receipts were $128,117,176 per annum.

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